

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-30 without prejudice and replace with new claims 31-36 as follows:

a' --(New) 31. A phage selected from hnogλ-9 as deposited with the American Type Culture Collection and assigned Accession Number 75310; hnogλ-10 as deposited with the American Type Culture Collection and assigned Accession Number 75308.--

--(New) 32. A culture medium suitable for use in culturing nerve cells containing a noggin polypeptide as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO: 2).--

--(New) 33. An isolated receptor which in vivo binds a noggin polypeptide as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO: 2) or a fragment thereof retaining the binding site for the polypeptide.--

--(New) 34. A hybridization probe suitable for detecting a nucleic acid as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO: 1), the hybridization probe having the sequence:

5'GAR GGIATGGTITGYAARCC (SEQ ID NO: 22).--

--(New) 35. A method of treatment of a human or animal comprising administering a therapeutic dosage of a noggin polypeptide as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO: 2), wherein the treatment is selected from the group consisting of regulation of cartilage and bone growth, therapy of a congenital condition or degenerative disorder of the nervous system, and treatment of damaged nerve cells.--